

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 02119 070715Z

12

ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SIL-01 OES-05 /023 W

----- 018169

R 070631Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5424

UNCLAS CANBERRA 2119

FOR SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION, DHEW

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL, AS

SUBJ: GOA "MEDIBANK" SCHEME

REF: (A) STATE 67022

(B) STATE A-1318, FEBRUARY 28, 1975

1. REF B RECEIVED CANBERRA APRIL 2. EMBASSY STILL TRYING TO OBTAIN PRINTED MATERIAL ON MEDIBANK, WHICH WILL BE POUCHED.

2. MEANWHILE, FOLLOWING BACKGROUND SUPPLIED BY DEPT. OF SOCIAL SECURITY (DSS) MAY PROVE USEFUL. IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION (HEALTH INSURANCE ACT 1973 AND HEALTH INSURANCE COMMISSION ACT 1974) HAS BEEN ENACTED. BENEFITS WILL BE PAID ON MEDICAL EXPENSES RELATED TO CARE ADMINISTERED IN DOCTORS' OFFICES STARTING JULY 1, 1975 IN ALL SIX STATES AND TWO FEDERAL TERRITORIES. HOSPITAL BENEFITS SCHEME, HOWEVER, WILL APPLY FROM JULY 1 ONLY IN TASMANIA AND SOUTH AUSTRALIA (ONLY TWO LABOR-CONTROLLED STATES) AND TERRITORIES. FOUR NON-LABOR STATES HAVE NOT REPEATED NOT REJECTED HOSPITAL BENEFITS PORTION OF MEDIBANK BUT ARE STILL "NEGOTIATING" WITH SOCIAL SECURITY MINISTER HAYDEN. DSS EXPECTS THESE STATES AND GOA WILL EVENTUALLY SETTLE DIFFERENCES, AND SCHEME WILL APPLY THERE A FEW MONTHS AFTER JULY 1.

3. ON FINANCING, GOA ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO FUND MEDIBANK BY SPECIAL 1.35 PERCENT LEVY ON INCOME. OPPOSITION-  
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CONTROLLED SENATE REJECTED THIS, AND GOA NOW PROPOSES TO

FUND FROM GENERAL REVENUES. OPPOSITION HAS INDICATED IT  
WILL NOT RPT NOT OPPOSE APPROPRIATION BILL PROVIDING FOR  
SUCH FUNDING, WHICH PARLIAMENT IS EXPECTED TO PASS IN  
MAY.  
GREEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HEALTH INSURANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750119-0811  
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**Office:** ACTION HEW  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** 75 STATE 67022  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOA "MEDIBANK" SCHEME  
**TAGS:** SWEL, AS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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